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# **NSSE 2016 Topical Module Report**

## **First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions**

California State University-Chico

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## About This Topical Module

This module includes a set of items only for first-year students and a set only for seniors, with questions adapted from the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement and the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project, respectively. The first-year items focus on academic perseverance, help-seeking behaviors, and institutional commitment, while the senior items explore post-graduation plans, links between the academic major and future plans, and confidence with skills developed during college.

## Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'FY Exp / Sr Transiti'n' column of this report.

Group label	FY Exp / Sr Transiti'n
Date submitted	Not applicable; comparison group not customized.
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution did not customize this comparison group; the default group (all module participants) was used.
Group description	Default comparison group

## FY Exp / Sr Transiti'n (N=237)

Alfred University (Alfred, NY)*	College of New Jersey, The (Ewing, NJ)*
Augusta University (Augusta, GA)	College of Our Lady of the Elms (Chicopee, MA)
Ave Maria University (Ave Maria, FL)*	College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University, The (Saint Joseph, MN)
Averett University (Danville, VA)	College of Saint Mary (Omaha, NE)*
Avila University (Kansas City, MO)	College of Saint Rose, The (Albany, NY)*
Azusa Pacific University (Azusa, CA)	Colorado College (Colorado Springs, CO)*
Barton College (Wilson, NC)	Columbus College of Art and Design (Columbus, OH)
Berklee College of Music (Boston, MA)*	Concord University (Athens, WV)
Bethany College (Lindsborg, KS)*	Concordia College-New York (Bronxville, NY)*
Birmingham-Southern College (Birmingham, AL)	Concordia University of Edmonton (Edmonton, AB)*
Bishop's University (Sherbrooke, QC)*	Converse College (Spartanburg, SC)
Brandon University (Brandon, MB)*	Coppin State University (Baltimore, MD)
Brescia University College (London, ON)	Cornell College (Mount Vernon, IA)*
Bridgewater College (Bridgewater, VA)	Cumberland University (Lebanon, TN)
Buena Vista University (Storm Lake, IA)	CUNY Hunter College (New York, NY)
Burman University (Lacombe, AB)	CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice (New York, NY)*
California State University-Channel Islands (Camarillo, CA)	CUNY New York City College of Technology (Brooklyn, NY)*
California State University, East Bay (Hayward, CA)	Daemen College (Amherst, NY)*
Cameron University (Lawton, OK)	Defiance College (Defiance, OH)
Campbell University Inc. (Buies Creek, NC)*	Dixie State University (Saint George, UT)
Campbellsville University (Campbellsville, KY)	Drake University (Des Moines, IA)
Canadian Mennonite University (Winnipeg, MB)	East Central University (Ada, OK)*
Capital University (Columbus, OH)	Eckerd College (Saint Petersburg, FL)*
Carson-Newman University (Jefferson City, TN)*	Emory and Henry College (Emory, VA)*
Carthage College (Kenosha, WI)*	Evergreen State College, The (Olympia, WA)
Centenary College of Louisiana (Shreveport, LA)	Faulkner University (Montgomery, AL)
Central College (Pella, IA)	Ferrum College (Ferrum, VA)*
Charleston Southern University (Charleston, SC)*	Finlandia University (Hancock, MI)
Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, The (Charleston, SC)	Flagler College (Saint Augustine, FL)*
College of Charleston (Charleston, SC)	Florida Institute of Technology (Melbourne, FL)

## FY Exp / Sr Transiti (N=237), continued

Florida Polytechnic University (Lakeland, FL)*	Morehead State University (Morehead, KY)*
Framingham State University (Framingham, MA)	Morgan State University (Baltimore, MD)*
Francis Marion University (Florence, SC)	Mount St. Joseph University (Cincinnati, OH)*
Franklin College (Franklin, IN)*	New Mexico Highlands University (Las Vegas, NM)
Franklin Pierce University (Rindge, NH)	New School, The (New York, NY)
Freed-Hardeman University (Henderson, TN)	Newman University (Wichita, KS)
Georgian Court University (Lakewood, NJ)*	Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)
Gordon College (Wenham, MA)	Northern State University (Aberdeen, SD)
Grand Canyon University (Phoenix, AZ)	Northwest Nazarene University (Nampa, ID)*
Guilford College (Greensboro, NC)	Northwestern College (Orange City, IA)
Hampshire College (Amherst, MA)	Norwich University (Northfield, VT)
Hanover College (Hanover, IN)	Ohio Dominican University (Columbus, OH)
Hartwick College (Oneonta, NY)	Oklahoma City University (Oklahoma City, OK)*
Harvey Mudd College (Claremont, CA)	Oregon State University (Corvallis, OR)
Hiram College (Hiram, OH)*	Otis College of Art and Design (Los Angeles, CA)*
Hood College (Frederick, MD)*	Pace University (New York, NY)
Hope International University (Fullerton, CA)*	Pennsylvania College of Technology (Williamsport, PA)*
Houston Baptist University (Houston, TX)*	Peru State College (Peru, NE)
Huron University College (London, ON)*	Pfeiffer University (Misenheimer, NC)
Idaho State University (Pocatello, ID)	Plymouth State University (Plymouth, NH)*
Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago, IL)	Prairie View A&M University (Prairie View, TX)*
Indiana University Bloomington (Bloomington, IN)*	Presentation College (Aberdeen, SD)*
Iona College (New Rochelle, NY)	Regent University (Virginia Beach, VA)
Ithaca College (Ithaca, NY)	Regis University (Denver, CO)
Jarvis Christian College (Hawkins, TX)	Roanoke College (Salem, VA)*
Johnson & Wales University (Providence, RI)	Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, NY)*
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)	Roosevelt University (Chicago, IL)*
Johnson & Wales University-Denver (Denver, CO)	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (Terre Haute, IN)*
Johnson & Wales University-North Miami (North Miami, FL)	Rutgers University-Camden (Camden, NJ)*
Judson University (Elgin, IL)	Rutgers University-New Brunswick/Piscataway (New Brunswick, NJ)*
Kansas State University (Manhattan, KS)	Rutgers University-Newark (Newark, NJ)*
Kaplan University (Davenport, IA)*	Sage Colleges, The (Troy, NY)
Kean University (Union, NJ)*	Saint Francis University (Loretto, PA)*
Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, GA)	Saint Joseph's College (Rensselaer, IN)
Keystone College (La Plume, PA)	Saint Peter's University (Jersey City, NJ)
Kwantlen Polytechnic University (Surrey, BC)	Salem College (Winston Salem, NC)*
La Sierra University (Riverside, CA)*	Scripps College (Claremont, CA)
Lander University (Greenwood, SC)	Seton Hall University (South Orange, NJ)
Lane College (Jackson, TN)	Siena College (Loudonville, NY)*
Lenoir-Rhyne University (Hickory, NC)	Southeast Missouri State University (Cape Girardeau, MO)*
Lesley University (Cambridge, MA)*	Southeastern Louisiana University (Hammond, LA)
Lewis & Clark College (Portland, OR)	Southern University at New Orleans (New Orleans, LA)
Lincoln University (Jefferson City, MO)*	Southern Virginia University (Buena Vista, VA)*
Louisiana State University at Alexandria (Alexandria, LA)	Southwestern Oklahoma State University (Weatherford, OK)
Maranatha Baptist University (Watertown, WI)*	Spelman College (Atlanta, GA)
Marian University (Fond Du Lac, WI)*	Spring Hill College (Mobile, AL)
Mars Hill University (Mars Hill, NC)*	St. Cloud State University (St Cloud, MN)*
Marymount California University (Rancho Palos Verdes, CA)	St. Francis College (Brooklyn Heights, NY)
Marymount Manhattan College (New York, NY)*	St. Mary's College of Maryland (Saint Mary's City, MD)
Mayville State University (Mayville, ND)*	Texas A&M University - Texarkana (Texarkana, TX)
McMaster University (Hamilton, ON)*	Texas Christian University (Fort Worth, TX)
McMurry University (Abilene, TX)	Texas State University (San Marcos, TX)
McNeese State University (Lake Charles, LA)	Texas Wesleyan University (Fort Worth, TX)
Milwaukee School of Engineering (Milwaukee, WI)*	Thomas College (Waterville, ME)*
Minot State University (Minot, ND)*	Thomas More College (Crestview Hills, KY)
Missouri University of Science & Technology (Rolla, MO)	Touro College (New York, NY)
Monmouth College (Monmouth, IL)*	Trine University (Angola, IN)
Moravian College (Bethlehem, PA)	Truett McConnell University (Cleveland, GA)

\*2015 participant

## FY Exp / Sr Transiti (N=237), continued

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Union College (NE) (Lincoln, NE)*	Wisconsin Lutheran College (Milwaukee, WI)*
University of Advancing Technology (Tempe, AZ)	Wittenberg University (Springfield, OH)
University of Akron (Akron, OH)*	Youngstown State University (Youngstown, OH)
University of Alabama at Birmingham (Birmingham, AL)	
University of Alabama in Huntsville (Huntsville, AL)	
University of Charleston (Charleston, WV)	
University of Colorado Denver (Denver, CO)	
University of Dallas (Irving, TX)	
University of Hartford (West Hartford, CT)*	
University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu (Kapolei, HI)	
University of Illinois at Chicago (Chicago, IL)*	
University of La Verne (La Verne, CA)*	
University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg, VA)	
University of Michigan-Flint (Flint, MI)	
University of Minnesota Duluth (Duluth, MN)	
University of Montana (Missoula, MT)	
University of Montana-Western, The (Dillon, MT)*	
University of Mount Olive (Mount Olive, NC)*	
University of New Brunswick (Fredericton, NB)	
University of New England (Biddeford, ME)	
University of North Dakota (Grand Forks, ND)*	
University of North Texas at Dallas (Dallas, TX)	
University of Pittsburgh-Bradford (Bradford, PA)	
University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras Campus (Rio Piedras, PR)*	
University of Redlands (Redlands, CA)*	
University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)	
University of Saint Joseph (West Hartford, CT)*	
University of Saint Mary (Leavenworth, KS)	
University of San Francisco (San Francisco, CA)	
University of Scranton (Scranton, PA)*	
University of Southern Indiana (Evansville, IN)	
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, The (Knoxville, TN)	
University of Texas at Arlington, The (Arlington, TX)	
University of Texas at El Paso, The (El Paso, TX)	
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, The (Edinburg, TX)	
University of the Virgin Islands (Charlotte Amalie, VI)	
University of Tulsa (Tulsa, OK)	
University of Vermont (Burlington, VT)*	
University of Washington Tacoma (Tacoma, WA)	
University of Wisconsin-River Falls (River Falls, WI)	
University of Wyoming (Laramie, WY)*	
Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology (Flushing, NY)	
Warner Pacific College (Portland, OR)*	
Washington Adventist University (Takoma Park, MD)	
Washington College (Chestertown, MD)	
Washington State University (Pullman, WA)*	
Webber International University (Babson Park, FL)	
Wesley College (Dover, DE)*	
Wesleyan College, Macon, Georgia (Macon, GA)	
West Virginia Wesleyan College (Buckhannon, WV)	
Western State Colorado University (Gunnison, CO)	
Westfield State University (Westfield, MA)	
Westminster College (Salt Lake City, UT)	
Whitworth University (Spokane, WA)*	
Willamette University (Salem, OR)*	
William Woods University (Fulton, MO)*	
Wingate University (Wingate, NC)	
Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC)	

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CSU, Chico		FY Exp / Sr Transitrn		CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transitrn	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?</b>										
a. Studied when there were other interesting things to do	FYSfy01a	1	Never	6	3	1,546	4	<b>2.7</b>	2.8	-.11
		2	Sometimes	100	43	14,070	34			
		3	Often	75	32	15,242	36			
		4	Very often	56	22	10,704	25			
		Total		237	100	41,562	100			
b. Found additional information for course assignments when you didn't understand the material	FYSfy01b	1	Never	7	3	1,218	3	<b>2.8</b>	2.9	-.12
		2	Sometimes	86	38	12,214	30			
		3	Often	88	37	18,254	44			
		4	Very often	53	22	9,723	23			
		Total		234	100	41,409	100			
c. Participated in course discussions, even when you didn't feel like it	FYSfy01c	1	Never	29	12	3,045	8	<b>2.4</b>	2.7 ***	-.29
		2	Sometimes	108	46	15,331	37			
		3	Often	75	32	15,223	36			
		4	Very often	25	11	7,854	19			
		Total		237	100	41,453	100			
d. Asked instructors for help when you struggled with course assignments	FYSfy01d	1	Never	16	7	3,898	10	<b>2.5</b>	2.6 *	-.13
		2	Sometimes	126	52	16,436	40			
		3	Often	69	30	13,583	32			
		4	Very often	25	11	7,391	17			
		Total		236	100	41,308	100			
e. Finished something you have started when you encountered challenges	FYSfy01e	1	Never	1	0	398	1	<b>3.0</b>	3.1 **	-.18
		2	Sometimes	61	26	7,369	19			
		3	Often	115	49	19,547	47			
		4	Very often	59	26	13,994	33			
		Total		236	100	41,308	100			
f. Stayed positive, even when you did poorly on a test or assignment	FYSfy01f	1	Never	11	5	1,476	4	<b>2.8</b>	2.9 *	-.14
		2	Sometimes	80	34	11,629	27			
		3	Often	89	38	17,197	41			
		4	Very often	54	24	10,993	27			
		Total		234	100	41,295	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, how difficult have the following been for you?</b>										
a. Learning course material	FYSfy02a	1	Not at all difficult	17	8	2,736	7	<b>3.3</b>	3.3	-.01
		2	2	32	13	7,282	18			
		3	3	87	35	11,984	29			
		4	4	70	30	13,067	31			
		5	5	22	11	4,861	12			
		6	Very difficult	7	3	1,540	4			
		Total		235	100	41,470	100			
b. Managing your time	FYSfy02b	1	Not at all difficult	7	3	2,446	6	<b>4.0</b>	3.8	.09
		2	2	29	12	5,336	13			
		3	3	55	23	8,843	21			
		4	4	57	25	10,721	26			
		5	5	56	25	8,400	20			
		6	Very difficult	31	13	5,633	14			
		Total		235	100	41,379	100			

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CSU, Chico		FY Exp / Sr Transn		CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transn	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
c. Getting help with school work	FYSfy02c	1	Not at all difficult	36	15	6,986	17	<b>3.0</b>	2.9	.09
		2	2	52	23	10,863	26			
		3	3	63	26	11,062	27			
		4	4	52	22	7,628	18			
		5	5	27	12	3,298	8			
		6	Very difficult	5	2	1,519	4			
		Total		235	100	41,356	100			
d. Interacting with faculty	FYSfy02d	1	Not at all difficult	35	15	8,478	21	<b>3.0</b>	2.8 *	.14 △
		2	2	61	26	10,594	25			
		3	3	56	24	9,944	24			
		4	4	40	17	7,074	17			
		5	5	28	12	3,491	9			
		6	Very difficult	14	6	1,724	4			
		Total		234	100	41,305	100			
<b>3. During the current school year, about how often have you sought help with coursework from the following sources?<sup>1</sup></b>										
a. Faculty members	FYSfy03a_16	1	Never	59	24	4,331	18	<b>2.1</b>	2.2	-.13
		2	Sometimes	113	49	12,788	51			
		3	Often	47	20	5,785	23			
		4	Very often	16	7	2,021	8			
		Total		235	100	24,925	100			
b. Academic advisors	FYSfy03b_16	1	Never	120	51	11,444	46	<b>1.7</b>	1.7	-.11
		2	Sometimes	79	35	9,180	37			
		3	Often	30	12	3,226	13			
		4	Very often	5	2	1,012	4			
		Total		234	100	24,862	100			
c. Learning support services (tutoring, writing center, success coaching, etc.)	FYSfy03c_16	1	Never	114	49	9,553	40	<b>1.9</b>	1.9	-.09
		2	Sometimes	59	26	8,790	35			
		3	Often	40	17	4,246	17			
		4	Very often	22	9	2,202	9			
		Total		235	100	24,791	100			
d. Friends or other students	FYSfy03d_16	1	Never	10	4	1,452	6	<b>2.9</b>	2.8	.04
		2	Sometimes	69	31	6,791	28			
		3	Often	87	37	9,857	39			
		4	Very often	68	28	6,785	26			
		Total		234	100	24,885	100			
e. Family members	FYSfy03e_16	1	Never	103	44	9,983	41	<b>1.8</b>	1.9	-.10
		2	Sometimes	85	37	8,071	33			
		3	Often	26	11	4,595	18			
		4	Very often	21	9	2,219	8			
		Total		235	100	24,868	100			
f. Other persons or offices	FYSfy03f_16	1	Never	147	63	15,368	62	<b>1.5</b>	1.5	-.01
		2	Sometimes	62	27	6,466	26			
		3	Often	16	7	2,125	9			
		4	Very often	8	4	781	3			
		Total		233	100	24,740	100			

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CSU, Chico		FY Exp / Sr Transitrn		CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transitrn	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>4a. During the current school year, have you seriously considered leaving this institution?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSfy04a	No		164	69	16,636	67	<b>31%</b>	33%	-.04
		Yes		72	31	8,277	33			
		Total		236	100	24,913	100			
<b>4b. [If answered "yes"] Why did you consider leaving? (Select all that apply.)<sup>l</sup></b>										
	FYSfy04b_1_16	—	Academics are too difficult	13	18	1,171	14			
	FYSfy04b_2_16	—	Academics are too easy	3	3	559	7			
		—	Other academic issues (major not offered, course availability, advising, credit transfer, etc.)	7	10	1,710	21			
	FYSfy04b_3_16	—								
	FYSfy04b_4_16	—	Financial concerns (costs or financial aid)	29	38	3,669	43			
		—	To change your career options (transfer to another school or program, military service, etc.)	18	24	1,565	20			
	FYSfy04b_5_16	—								
	FYSfy04b_6_16	—	Difficulty managing demands of school and work	12	18	1,149	14			
	FYSfy04b_7_16	—	Too much emphasis on partying	15	21	466	6			
	FYSfy04b_8_16	—	Not enough opportunities to socialize and have fun	13	19	1,716	21			
	FYSfy04b_9_16	—	Relations with faculty and staff	4	7	800	10			
	FYSfy04b_10_16	—	Relations with other students	17	23	1,699	19			
	FYSfy04b_11_16	—	Campus climate, location, or culture	25	36	2,081	25			
	FYSfy04b_12_16	—	Unsafe or hostile environment	17	24	422	5			
		—	Personal reasons (family issues, physical or mental health, homesickness, stress, etc.)	45	61	2,875	33			
	FYSfy04b_13_16	—								
	FYSfy04b_14_16	—	Another reason, please specify:	10	13	1,312	17			
<b>5. How important is it to you that you graduate from this institution?</b>										
	FYSfy05	1	Not important	14	6	1,456	4	<b>5.0</b>	5.2 *	-0.15
		2		6	2	1,032	3			
		3		12	5	2,095	5			
		4		24	11	3,732	9			
		5		37	18	5,246	13			
		6	Very important	141	58	27,758	67			
		Total		234	100	41,319	100			

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.



### First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
	CSU, Chico	CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transiti			
								<i>Comparisons with:</i>		
FYSfy01a	234	2.74	2.83	.05	.01	0.83	0.85	16,438	.103	-.11
FYSfy01b	230	2.78	2.88	.05	.01	0.82	0.80	235	.085	-.12
FYSfy01c	234	2.41	2.66	.05	.01	0.83	0.87	16,394	.000	-.29
FYSfy01d	233	2.45	2.57	.05	.01	0.78	0.89	241	.022	-.13
FYSfy01e	233	2.99	3.12	.05	.01	0.73	0.74	239	.007	-.18
FYSfy01f	231	2.81	2.92	.06	.01	0.85	0.83	16,327	.038	-.14
FYSfy02a	231	3.32	3.34	.08	.01	1.15	1.21	16,400	.866	-.01
FYSfy02b	231	3.95	3.83	.09	.01	1.33	1.42	16,369	.191	.09
FYSfy02c	231	2.99	2.87	.09	.01	1.31	1.33	16,364	.172	.09
FYSfy02d	231	3.02	2.82	.09	.01	1.43	1.40	16,336	.030	.14
FYSfy03a_16 <sup>l</sup>	232	2.10	2.20	.05	.01	0.84	0.83	9,775	.052	-.13
FYSfy03b_16 <sup>l</sup>	230	1.66	1.75	.05	.01	0.78	0.83	9,750	.106	-.11
FYSfy03b_16 <sup>l</sup>	232	1.85	1.94	.07	.01	0.99	0.95	241	.180	-.09
FYSfy03b_16 <sup>l</sup>	231	2.88	2.85	.06	.01	0.86	0.88	9,759	.590	.04
FYSfy03e_16 <sup>l</sup>	232	1.85	1.95	.06	.01	0.93	0.96	9,756	.123	-.10
FYSfy03f_16 <sup>l</sup>	230	1.52	1.53	.05	.01	0.78	0.78	9,708	.832	-.01
FYSfy04a <sup>k</sup>	233	.312	.330	.0304	.0048	--	--	--	.553	-.04
FYSfy05	230	5.05	5.24	.10	.01	1.45	1.32	16,349	.028	-.15

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CSU, Chico		FY Exp / Sr Transn		CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transn	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>1. Do you expect to graduate this spring or summer?<sup>1</sup></b>										
	FYSsr01_16	No		250	42	9,383	33			
		Yes		353	58	21,102	67			
		Total		603	100	30,485	100			
<b>1a. [Excludes those who answered "No," not expecting spring/summer graduation] After graduation, what best describes your immediate plans?</b>										
	FYSsr01a	—	Full-time employment	196	56	24,324	59			
		—	Part-time employment	22	6	1,605	4			
		—	Graduate or professional school	77	21	9,385	23			
		—	Military service	2	1	418	1			
		—	Service or volunteer activity (AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.)	5	1	453	1			
		—	Internship (paid or unpaid)	15	4	1,572	4			
		—	Travel or gap year	15	4	1,402	3			
		—	No plans at this time	11	3	1,221	3			
		—	Other, please specify:	13	4	1,226	3			
		Total		356	100	41,606	100			
<b>1b. [If immediate plans included full- or part-time employment] Do you already have a job for after graduation?<sup>1</sup></b>										
	FYSsr01b	No		121	55	14,616	56	<b>45%</b>	44%	.02
		Yes, I will start a new job		57	27	4,736	18			
		Yes, I will continue in my current job		39	18	6,453	26			
		Total		217	100	25,805	100			
<b>2. [Excludes those who answered "No," not expecting spring/summer graduation] To what extent have courses in your major(s) prepared you for your post-graduation plans?</b>										
	FYSsr02	1	Very little	19	5	2,417	6	<b>3.1</b>	3.0	.10
		2	Some	64	18	8,890	22			
		3	Quite a bit	133	38	15,445	37			
		4	Very much	138	39	14,738	35			
		Total		354	100	41,490	100			
<b>3. Do you intend to work eventually in a field related to your major(s)?<sup>1</sup></b>										
	FYSsr03	Yes		521	86	43,393	85	<b>86%</b>	85%	.02
		No		19	3	2,156	4			
		Unsure		63	10	5,167	10			
		Total		603	100	50,716	100			
<b>4. Do you plan to be self-employed, an independent contractor, or a freelance worker someday?<sup>1</sup></b>										
	FYSsr04	Yes		135	24	10,719	23	<b>24%</b>	23%	.03
		No		280	45	25,346	48			
		Unsure		187	31	14,639	29			
		Total		602	100	50,704	100			

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CSU, Chico		FY Exp / Sr Transiti <sup>n</sup>		CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transiti <sup>n</sup>	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
<b>5. Do you plan to start your own business (nonprofit or for-profit) someday?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSsr05		Yes	153	27	11,943	25	<b>27%</b>	25%	.03
		(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No	241	39	23,101	43			
			Unsure	210	35	15,707	31			
			Total	604	100	50,751	100			
<b>6. How much confidence do you have in your ability to complete tasks requiring the following skills and abilities?<sup>j</sup></b>										
a. Critical thinking and analysis of arguments and information	FYSsr06a		1 Very little	6	1	325	1	<b>3.4</b>	3.5 *	-.10
			2 Some	54	9	3,749	7			
			3 Quite a bit	225	37	17,721	34			
			4 Very much	309	53	28,941	58			
			Total	594	100	50,736	100			
b. Creative thinking and problem solving	FYSsr06b		1 Very little	5	1	297	1	<b>3.5</b>	3.5 *	-.09
			2 Some	50	8	3,424	7			
			3 Quite a bit	215	36	17,167	34			
			4 Very much	324	55	29,782	59			
			Total	594	100	50,670	100			
c. Research skills	FYSsr06c		1 Very little	12	2	954	2	<b>3.3</b>	3.3	-.01
			2 Some	96	16	7,491	15			
			3 Quite a bit	216	36	19,568	38			
			4 Very much	269	46	22,651	45			
			Total	593	100	50,664	100			
d. Clear writing	FYSsr06d		1 Very little	12	2	726	1	<b>3.3</b>	3.3	-.04
			2 Some	79	13	6,315	12			
			3 Quite a bit	224	37	19,245	38			
			4 Very much	280	47	24,362	48			
			Total	595	100	50,648	100			
e. Persuasive speaking	FYSsr06e		1 Very little	27	5	1,961	4	<b>2.9</b>	3.1 ***	-.16
			2 Some	168	28	11,307	22			
			3 Quite a bit	223	38	18,805	37			
			4 Very much	175	30	18,548	37			
			Total	593	100	50,621	100			
f. Technological skills	FYSsr06f		1 Very little	33	6	1,850	3	<b>3.0</b>	3.1	-.07
			2 Some	135	22	11,257	22			
			3 Quite a bit	226	38	19,673	38			
			4 Very much	200	35	17,814	37			
			Total	594	100	50,594	100			
g. Financial and business management skills	FYSsr06g		1 Very little	109	18	7,812	15	<b>2.5</b>	2.6 *	-.10
			2 Some	205	34	17,276	33			
			3 Quite a bit	175	30	14,988	30			
			4 Very much	105	18	10,568	22			
			Total	594	100	50,644	100			

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CSU, Chico		FY Exp / Sr Transn		CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transn	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
h. Entrepreneurial skills	FYSSr06h	1	Very little	159	26	10,859	21	<b>2.2</b>	2.4 ***	-0.20
		2	Some	235	40	18,089	35			
		3	Quite a bit	122	22	12,780	25			
		4	Very much	72	13	8,783	18			
		Total		588	100	50,511	100			
i. Leadership skills	FYSSr06i	1	Very little	20	3	1,350	3	<b>3.2</b>	3.3 **	-0.11
		2	Some	112	19	7,540	15			
		3	Quite a bit	213	36	17,480	35			
		4	Very much	246	42	24,224	47			
		Total		591	100	50,594	100			
j. Networking and relationship building	FYSSr06j	1	Very little	40	7	2,528	5	<b>2.9</b>	3.0 **	-0.13
		2	Some	153	25	10,855	22			
		3	Quite a bit	209	36	18,316	36			
		4	Very much	189	32	18,757	37			
		Total		591	100	50,456	100			
<b>7. To what extent has your coursework in your major(s) emphasized the following?</b>										
a. Generating new ideas or brainstorming	FYSSr07a	1	Very little	35	6	1,958	4	<b>3.1</b>	3.1 *	-0.09
		2	Some	113	19	9,296	19			
		3	Quite a bit	226	39	18,530	36			
		4	Very much	218	37	20,815	41			
		Total		592	100	50,599	100			
b. Taking risks in your coursework without fear of penalty	FYSSr07b	1	Very little	143	25	10,906	22	<b>2.4</b>	2.5 **	-0.11
		2	Some	189	31	14,081	28			
		3	Quite a bit	142	24	13,598	27			
		4	Very much	117	20	11,892	23			
		Total		591	100	50,477	100			
c. Evaluating multiple approaches to a problem	FYSSr07c	1	Very little	40	7	2,345	5	<b>3.0</b>	3.1 *	-0.09
		2	Some	117	20	10,070	20			
		3	Quite a bit	234	39	18,610	37			
		4	Very much	197	34	19,339	38			
		Total		588	100	50,364	100			
d. Inventing new methods to arrive at unconventional solutions	FYSSr07d	1	Very little	83	14	6,259	13	<b>2.6</b>	2.7 *	-0.10
		2	Some	194	33	14,280	28			
		3	Quite a bit	170	28	15,436	31			
		4	Very much	143	25	14,054	28			
		Total		590	100	50,029	100			

### 8. Is there anything your institution could have done better to prepare you for your career or further education? Please describe.

This final question asked students to respond in an open text box. Comments were recorded for 226 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE16 Topical Module - Senior Transitions Student Comments" report and in a separate SPSS data file.

*These open-ended responses appear exactly as respondents entered them and may not be suitable for distribution without prior review.*

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

### Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
	CSU, Chico	CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	CSU, Chico	FY Exp / Sr Transiti			
FYSsr01b <sup>k</sup>	221	.452	.441	.0335	.0039	--	--	--	.745	.02
FYSsr02	352	3.10	3.01	.05	.01	0.88	0.90	25,917	.051	.10
FYSsr03 <sup>k</sup>	605	.861	.853	.0141	.0020	--	--	--	.572	.02
FYSsr04 <sup>k</sup>	603	.236	.225	.0173	.0024	--	--	--	.527	.03
FYSsr05 <sup>k</sup>	606	.266	.252	.0180	.0024	--	--	--	.447	.03
FYSsr06a	596	3.43	3.49	.03	.00	0.69	0.66	32,107	.021	-.10
FYSsr06b	596	3.45	3.51	.03	.00	0.68	0.65	616	.049	-.09
FYSsr06c	595	3.25	3.26	.03	.00	0.80	0.78	32,059	.771	-.01
FYSsr06d	597	3.29	3.33	.03	.00	0.78	0.75	32,047	.288	-.04
FYSsr06e	595	2.94	3.08	.04	.00	0.87	0.86	32,023	.000	-.16
FYSsr06f	596	3.02	3.08	.04	.00	0.89	0.85	32,014	.071	-.07
FYSsr06g	596	2.49	2.59	.04	.01	0.99	0.99	32,049	.014	-.10
FYSsr06h	590	2.21	2.41	.04	.01	0.97	1.01	613	.000	-.20
FYSsr06i	594	3.17	3.26	.03	.00	0.84	0.82	32,012	.007	-.11
FYSsr06j	593	2.93	3.05	.04	.01	0.92	0.89	31,929	.002	-.13
FYSsr07a	594	3.06	3.13	.04	.00	0.89	0.86	32,020	.029	-.09
FYSsr07b	593	2.39	2.51	.04	.01	1.07	1.08	31,938	.009	-.11
FYSsr07c	590	3.00	3.08	.04	.00	0.90	0.88	31,862	.032	-.09
FYSsr07d	592	2.63	2.73	.04	.01	1.00	1.01	31,652	.017	-.10

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## Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent  $t$ -tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent  $t$ -tests uses Cohen's  $d$ ;  $z$ -tests use Cohen's  $h$ .
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the  $t$ -tests. Values differ from  $N$ s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent  $t$ -tests or  $z$ -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.
- j. Statistical comparison uses  $z$ -test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.
- k. Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."
- l. This was a new item in 2016, comparison group results do not include 2015 institutions. May not apply to all modules.

### **Key to symbols:**

- ▲ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ( $p < .05$ ) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
- △ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ( $p < .05$ ) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▽ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ( $p < .05$ ) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▼ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ( $p < .05$ ) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.